8th May 1954]

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, in this particular case the lands referred to are margin porambokes of a canal and they could not be assigned. The question of assignment of such of the lands as could be assigned is under the consideration of the Collector."

Opening of an Agricultural Demonstrator's office at Quilandy.

* 588 *Q.*—SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal under consideration for opening an Agricultural Demonstrator's office at Quilandy, North Malabar district? 8-20 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The answer is in the negative."

Maintenance of the Prohibition chowkies at Mahe.

* 589 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) the cost of maintenance of the Prohibition chowkies at Mahe border per year;

(*b*) how many cases were detected in the year 1952–53; and

(*c*) whether the chowkidars have been ordered to stop and check all vehicles passing that way?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) The cost of maintenance of the seven Prohibition chowkies around the Mahe border is Rs. 38,878 per year;

" (*b*) a total number of 108 Prohibition cases were detected in the year 1952–53;

" (*c*) under section 32 of the Prohibition Act, all Prohibition officers have power to search any vehicle in which they may have reasonable cause to suspect any liquor, drug or other article to be, or to be concealed, and so no specific orders to the chowkidars to stop and check all vehicles passing the chowkies are necessary."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Are Government aware that these seven chowkies are a big drain on their resources? At the same time, drink is freely flowing across the frontier without any let or hindrance. Will the Government therefore think it desirable to abolish these chowkies and thereby minimise the interminable nuisance caused to passengers going up and down in buses and other vehicles? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Government cannot give such assurance now."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" Are the Government aware that no checking is made regarding the motor cars used by rich and influential people? "